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## **TUCSON MAN SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS FOR IDENTITY THEFT AND FRAUDULENT USE OF THOUSANDS OF CREDIT AND DEBIT CARD NUMBERS**

TUCSON – United States District Judge David C. Bury sentenced Jacob Vincent Green-Bressler, 21, of Tucson, today to 84 months in prison for his role in a criminal conspiracy, the object of which was the theft and fraudulent use of credit and debit card numbers and their associated personal identification numbers. On March 9, 2007, Green-Bressler pleaded guilty to two felony offenses, Conspiracy to Commit Offenses Against the United States and Aggravated Identity Theft, as well as a Misdemeanor Information charging Possession of Stolen Authentication Features. The eighty-four month sentence consisted of a 60 month sentence on the felony conspiracy offense and the misdemeanor offense, and a twenty-four 24 month consecutive sentence on the felony aggravated identity theft offense.

On October 26, 2005, a federal grand jury returned a nine-count indictment against Green-Bressler and 16 other individuals from the Tucson area. The charges included Conspiracy to Commit Offenses Against the United States, Fraud in Connection with Access Devices; Fraud in Connection With Identification Documents, Authentication Features, and Information; Aggravated Identity Theft; Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering, and aiding and abetting these offenses.

The charges in the indictment involved a conspiracy to fraudulently withdraw money from automated teller machines (ATM's) and automated cashier machines (ACM's) in and around Tucson using stolen credit and debit card numbers. Green-Bressler solicited and was supplied with stolen credit and debit card account information of U.S. banking customers from individuals located in foreign countries, including Vietnam, Pakistan, Jordan, Egypt, Philippines, Macedonia, Romania, Estonia, Kosovo, Canada, Russia, United Kingdom, Panama, Morocco, Lebanon, Mexico, Australia, Lithuania, and France ("the suppliers.") Green-Bressler obtained this credit and debit card account information by visiting Internet Relay Chat rooms and forums run by the suppliers, as well as by private electronic messaging with these suppliers. In these chat rooms, the suppliers advertised the sale and cashing of credit and debit card information that they had obtained by means of phishing, pharming, and spamming unsuspecting victims.

The information provided by the suppliers to Green-Bressler included credit and debit card account numbers, associated personal identification numbers (PIN's), algorithms, and proprietary information relating to the customer's account, including the card verification value, expiration dates, passwords, and social security numbers. This information is required in order to produce a workable format to be encoded onto counterfeit credit cards.

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Green-Bressler used software to format and encode the credit card information onto plastic cards with magnetic strips. Green-Bressler and his co-conspirators used the plastic cards containing the stolen credit and debit card numbers to withdraw money from ATM's and ACM's in Tucson. For instance, on March 9, 2005, Green-Bressler and two co-defendants used one of the counterfeit credit cards that he had created to fraudulently withdraw approximately \$148,000.00 from an ACM located in the Casino Del Sol, Tucson, Arizona.

Green-Bressler and his co-defendants would wire transfer approximately fifty percent of the money fraudulently withdrawn from the ATM's and ACM's back to the overseas suppliers of the stolen credit and debit card information. Green-Bressler recruited many of the co-defendants to assist him in wiring the illegal proceeds abroad. During the conspiracy, the defendants possessed more than 4,500 illegally obtained credit and debit card account numbers and PIN's, and wire transferred more than \$300,000 of the proceeds of the fraudulent credit and debit card transactions to the overseas suppliers of this credit and debit card account information.

In addition to the 84 month prison sentence, Green-Bressler was ordered to make restitution to the victim banks, forfeit property which represented both the means used to commit these offenses as well as the proceeds of the offenses, and serve a three year term of supervised release.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the U.S. Secret Service with assistance from the U.S. Marshal's Service, Pima County Sheriff's Office and the Tucson Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Eric Markovich, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

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